



the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

MARVEL
POP
ART 12¢
PRODUCTIONS

IND. 30 NOV

ONLY THE BATTY
MARVEL BULLPEN
COULD PRESENT
SUCH A TRULY
DAZZLING
DISPLAY OF
DERRING-DO AS...
"THE
CLAWS
OF THE
CAT!"



"THE CLAWS OF THE CAT!"

IN WHICH OUR WEB-SPINNING WONDER ENCOUNTERS A BRAND NEW FOE, WHILE FINDING HIMSELF STILL BESET BY THE SAME OLD PROBLEMS! IT IS MORE THAN LIKELY THAT THIS LITTLE EXCURSION INTO ADVENTURE WILL MEET WITH YOUR UNQUALIFIED APPROVAL!



HEROICALLY WRITTEN
AND EDITED BY:
STAN LEE

HOMERICALLY PLOTTED
AND DRAWN BY:
STEVE DITKO

HASTILY LETTERED
AND BORDERED BY:
ARTIE SIMEK

AND NOW, WE BRING YOU ONE OF
THE MOST EAGERLY AWAITED
MOMENTS OF ALL--THE MOMENT
YOU BEGIN TO READ ANOTHER
MIGHTY MARVEL MASTERWORK...

LAST ISSUE, SHAKEN BY THE THREAT OF THE SCORPION, BETTY BRANT WAS ESCORTED HOME BY SPIDEY'S RIVAL FOR HER AFFECTIONS--NED LEEDS--

WHAT WOULD I HAVE DONE WITHOUT YOU, NED?

JUST YOU REST UP, BETTY! I'LL CALL LATER!

I'LL LOOK AFTER HER NOW! SHE'LL BE ALL RIGHT!

FRUSTRATED AND ANGRY BY THE SUDDEN TURN OF EVENTS, OUR HERO DID NOT REALIZE THAT HIS ELDERLY AUNT MAY WAS ATTEMPTING TO CONCEAL HER FAINTING SPELLS FROM HIM...

I MUSTN'T WORRY PETER BY LETTING HIM KNOW HOW I'VE BEEN FEELING--!

THAT NIGHT, WHEN THEIR NEIGHBOR, MRS. WATSON, DROPS BY, PETER BREATHES A SIGH OF RELIEF...

YOU SIMPLY MUST COME TO THE MOVIES WITH ME TONIGHT, MAY!

I'D LOVE TO, DEAR! I'LL GET MY HAT!

GREAT! NOW SPIDER-MAN WILL HAVE A CHANCE TO PROWL THE CITY!

MINUTES LATER, A SWIFT, SILENT FIGURE EFFORTLESSLY SWINGS OVER THE SHADY STREETS BELOW...

WOULDN'T YOU KNOW IT? JUST WHEN I'M IN THE MOOD FOR SOME ACTION, THE CITY'S AS DULL AS JONAH JAMESON'S WISE-CRACKS!

I WONDER IF BETTY IS FEELING BETTER BY NOW?

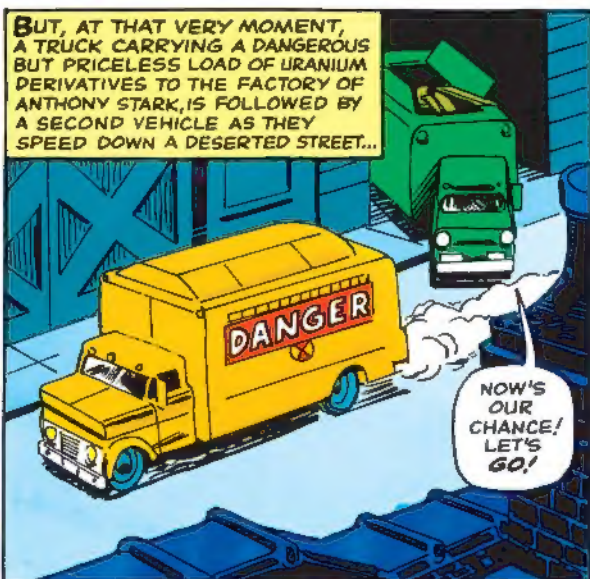
BUT, SO PREOCCUPIED IS HE WITH HIS OWN THOUGHTS, THAT SPIDEY DOESN'T NOTICE...

--WHEW--! THAT WAS A CLOSE CALL! IF SPIDER-MAN HAD JUST TURNED HIS HEAD, IT COULD HAVE BEEN THE END OF THE CAT BURGLAR'S CAREER!

BUT, I'M JUST SMALL POTATOES TO HIM! HE'S ONLY INTERESTED IN SUPER-POWERED WORLD MENACES!

A BURGLAR WHO HAS TO USE A SPECIAL TOOL, JUST TO BREAK A SIMPLE WINDOW LOCK WOULD BE BENEATH HIS NOTICE-- I HOPE!

JUST AS I THOUGHT-- THE APARTMENT'S EMPTY! A PERFECT SET-UP FOR SOMEONE WITH MY PARTICULAR TALENTS!





-AND J. JONAH JAMESON, THE PUBLIC-SPIRITED NEWSPAPER PUBLISHER AND PHILANTHROPIST HAS OFFERED A THOUSAND-DOLLAR REWARD FOR INFORMATION LEADING TO THE CAPTURE OF THE CAT BURGLAR...

A THOUSAND
DOLLARS--
TO BE PAID
BY TIGHT-
WAD JONAH!
THAT'S MUSIC
TO MY LITTLE
SHELL-LIKE
EARS!

JUST
WAIT'LL
HE LEARNS
HE'LL
HAVE TO
PAY IT TO
**SPIDER-
MAN!**

IN FACT, I'LL JUST DROP
IN AND NEEDLE HIM A
BIT NOW!

JOLTING
OL' JONAH
IS FAST
BECOMING MY
FAVORITE
INDOOR SPORT!

AHHH, I'D
 RECOGNIZE
 THAT FLAT
 LITTLE HEAD
 OF HIS
 ANYWHERE!

HI, CHUCKLES! I JUST DROPPED BY TO TELL YOU TO KEEP YOUR CHECK BOOK HANDY! I'M GONNA BRING YOU THAT CAT CHARACTER BEFORE YOU CAN SAY "ALL THE WAY WITH J.J."!!

SPIDER-MAN!

**NOW
THERE'S
A SNAPPY
COMEBACK!**

WELL, I DON'T WANT TO HANG AROUND TOO LONG--YOU'RE SO CHARMING THAT I MAY GROW TO LIKE YOU--IN WHICH CASE I'D HAVE TO KILL MYSELF!

SO KEEP
SMILING,
BUDDY
BOY!

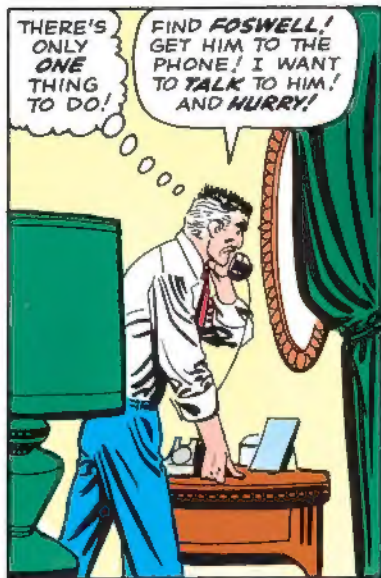
**STAY AWAY
FROM THE CAT
BURGLAR, DO
YOU HEAR? KEEP
OUT OF THIS! THE
REWARD ISN'T
FOR YOU--!**

YOU'RE SO
MASTERFUL
WHEN
YOU'RE
ANGRY!

IT'LL BE JUST MY LUCK THAT
HE **DOES** CAPTURE THE CAT!
I CAN SEE IT NOW-- HE'LL
SWAGGER DOWN THE STREET
WITH THE CROWDS CHEERING--!

I'LL HAVE TO PAY HIM THE REWARD-- IN FRONT OF THE TV CAMERAS-- RIGHT OUT IN PUBLIC! HE'LL BE GLOATING BENEATH THAT UGLY MASK OF HIS!

AND, TO MAKE IT **WORSE**, I'LL
BE A LAUGHING STOCK BECAUSE
OF THE WAY I'VE ALWAYS
ATTACKED HIM IN MY NEWS-
PAPERS! **OHNN--** I'D RATHER
GIVE THE REWARD TO
THE CAT!



THERE'S ONLY **ONE** THING TO DO!

FIND **FOSWELL**! GET HIM TO THE PHONE! I WANT TO TALK TO HIM! AND **HURRY**!



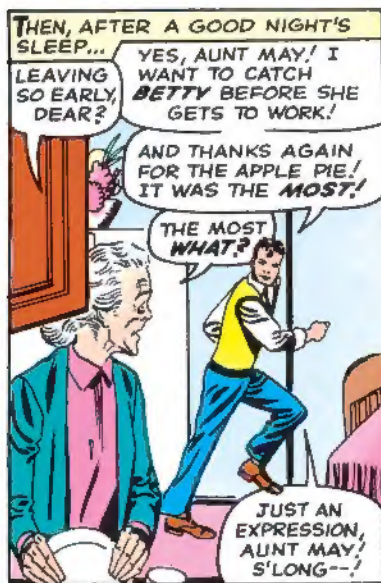
THIRTY SECONDS LATER...
FOSWELL, DROP EVERYTHING! USE ALL YOUR UNDERWORLD CONTACTS! YOU'VE GOT TO FIND THE CAT BURGLAR BEFORE **SPIDER-MAN** DOES!

I'LL DO MY BEST CHIEF! WITH THE AID OF MY STOOL-PIGEON **PATCH** DISGUISE!



WHILE, SWINGING BLITHELY OVERHEAD, WE FIND...
THE TRAIL'S PRETTY COLD NOW! I'LL START SEARCHING FOR THE CAT AGAIN TOMORROW!

THIS IS AUNT MAY'S **APPLE PIE** NIGHT! I DON'T WANNA MISS IT!



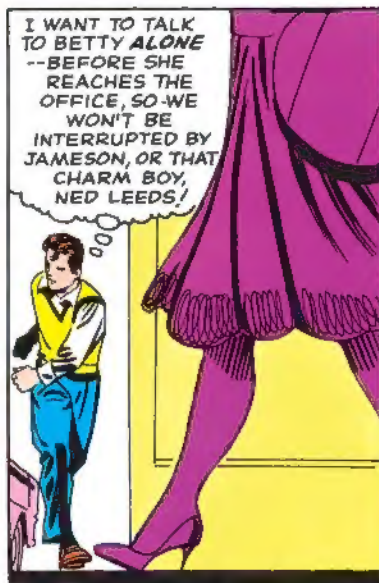
THEN, AFTER A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP... LEAVING SO EARLY, DEAR?

YES, AUNT MAY! I WANT TO CATCH **BETTY** BEFORE SHE GETS TO WORK!

AND THANKS AGAIN FOR THE **APPLE PIE**! IT WAS THE **MOST**!

THE **MOST** WHAT?

JUST AN EXPRESSION, AUNT MAY! S'LONG--



I WANT TO TALK TO **BETTY ALONE** --BEFORE SHE REACHES THE OFFICE, SO WE WON'T BE INTERRUPTED BY **JAMESON**, OR THAT CHARM BOY, **NED LEEDS**!



HEY-- LOOK OUT! OH-- **LIZ ALLAN**!

PETEY! AS I LIVE AND BREATHE! I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU SINCE GRADUATION!



GEE, **LIZ**-- YOU'RE LOOKING **GREAT**! WHAT'S NEW? WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN DOING WITH YOURSELF?

OH, I'VE TAKEN A JOB! I'M A WORKING GIRL NOW! BUT, WHY BORE YOU WITH THE DETAILS! YOU DON'T HAVE TO PRETEND TO BE INTERESTED!



GEE, **LIZ**, I'M NOT PRETENDING--!
WELL, NEVER MIND ABOUT THAT! WOULD YOU DO ME A **FAVOR**, **PETEY**--FOR OLD TIME'S SAKE?

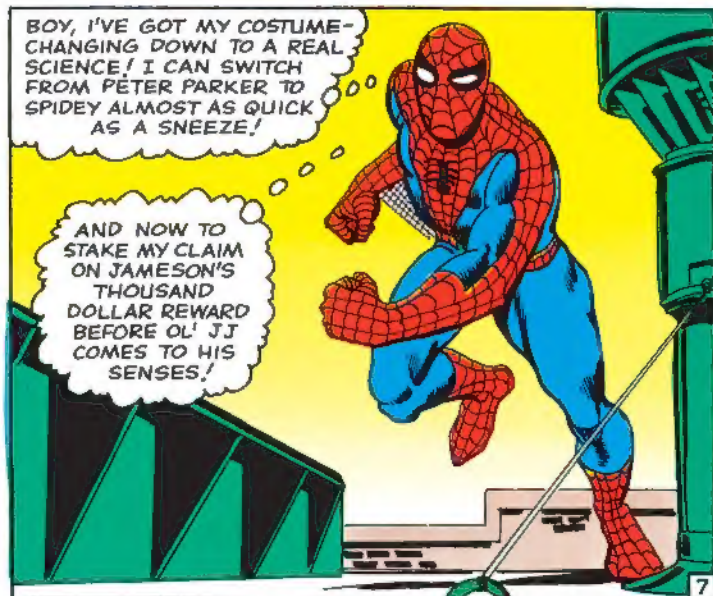
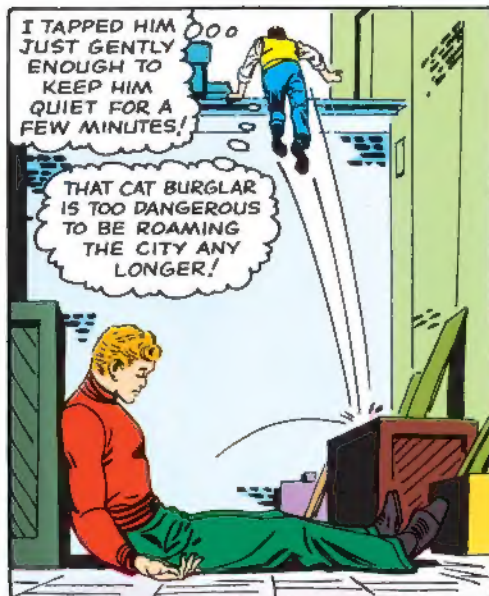
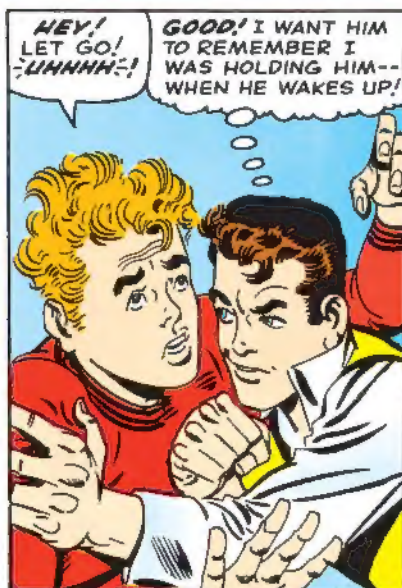
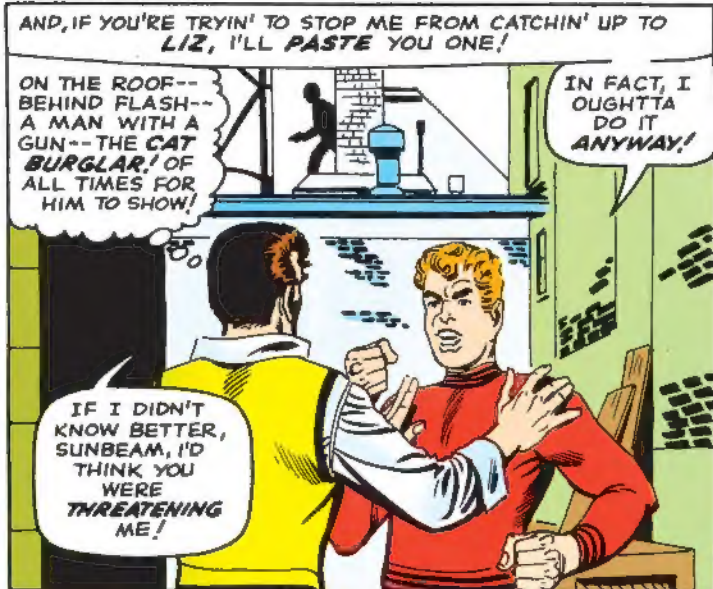
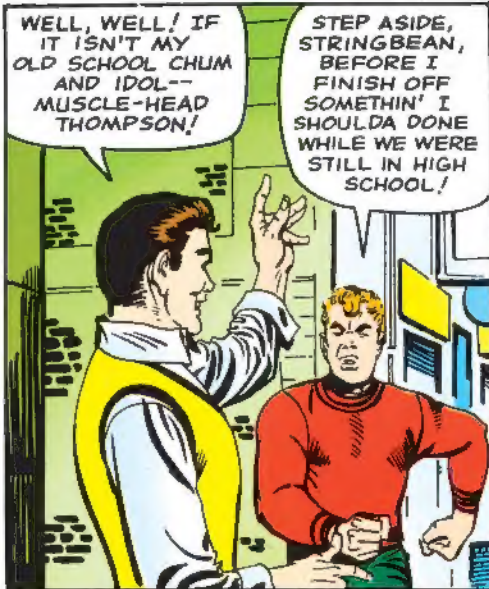
SURE I WILL!



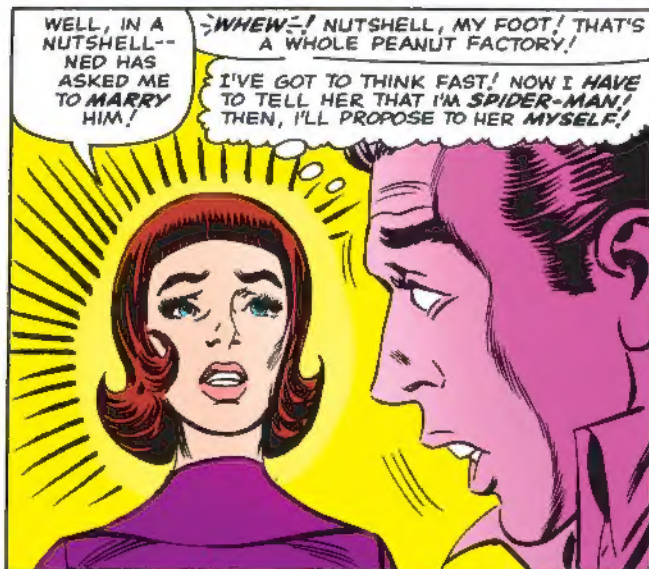
FLASH THOMPSON IS FOLLOWING ME, TO SEE WHERE I WORK! IF HE FINDS OUT, I'LL JUST NEVER GET RID OF HIM! WOULD YOU STALL HIM FOR A WHILE!

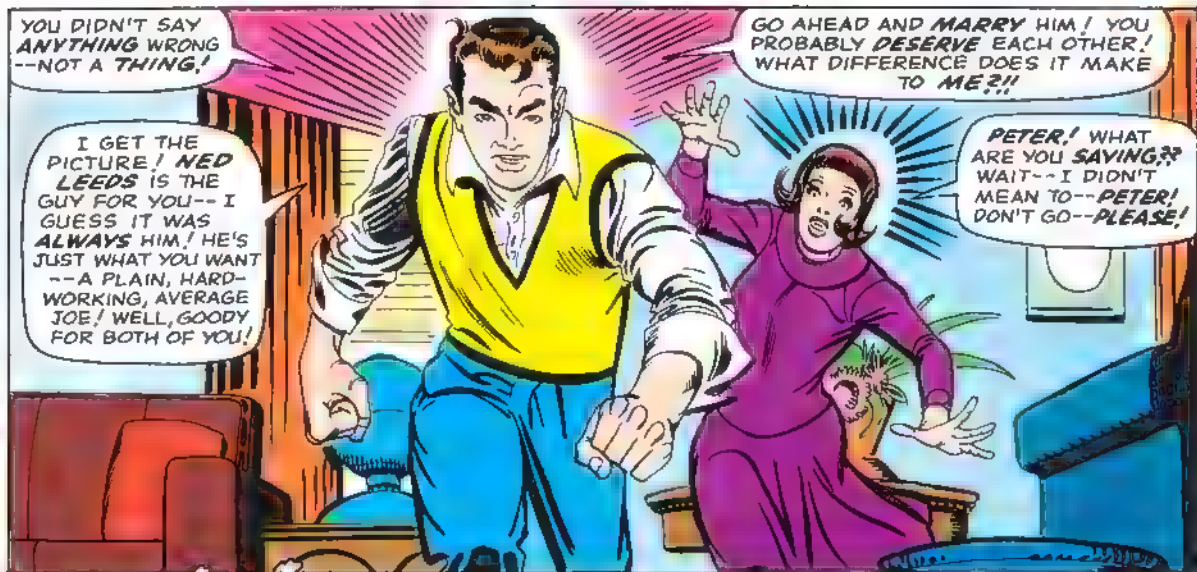
WHAT'S SHE DOIN' WITH **PARKER**?

IT'LL BE A PLEASURE!







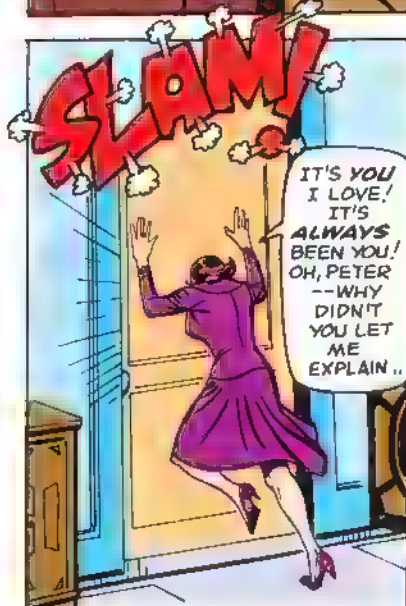


YOU DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING WRONG --NOT A THING!

GO AHEAD AND MARRY HIM! YOU PROBABLY DESERVE EACH OTHER! WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE TO ME?!!

I GET THE PICTURE! NED LEEDS IS THE GUY FOR YOU-- I GUESS IT WAS ALWAYS HIM! HE'S JUST WHAT YOU WANT --A PLAIN, HARD-WORKING, AVERAGE JOE! WELL, GOODY FOR BOTH OF YOU!

PETER! WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?? WAIT-- I DIDN'T MEAN TO--PETER! DON'T GO--PLEASE!



IT'S YOU I LOVE! IT'S ALWAYS BEEN YOU! OH, PETER --WHY DIDN'T YOU LET ME EXPLAIN..



WHY WOULDN'T HE LISTEN?? WHAT IS IT THAT ALWAYS STANDS BETWEEN US? THE ONE SECRET HE KEEPS LOCKED WITHIN HIM-- THE SECRET HE NEVER SHARES, OR TALKS ABOUT--!



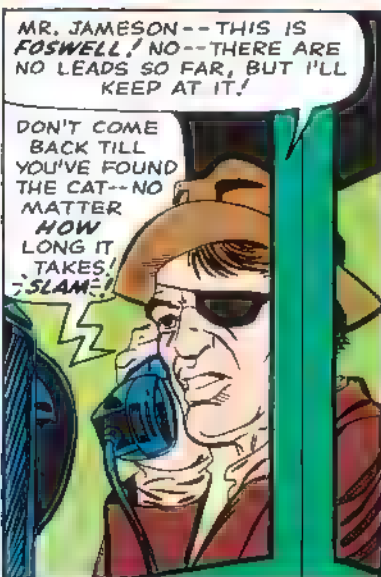
AND, OUTSIDE THE HOUSE, A YOUTHFUL FIGURE STANDS-- OBLIVIOUS TO EVERYTHING SAVE THE ACHE IN HIS HEART...!

THAT TEARS IT FOR GOOD! IT'S OVER! I'VE LOST HER!



WHILE, IN THE OFFICE OF JONAH JAMESON...

EVERY TIME THAT BLASTED PHONE RINGS, I'M AFRAID IT'S THE NEWS THAT SPIDER-MAN HAS CAPTURED THE CAT!



MR. JAMESON-- THIS IS FOSWELL! NO--THERE ARE NO LEADS SO FAR, BUT I'LL KEEP AT IT!

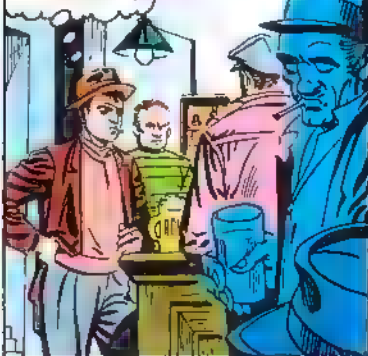
DON'T COME BACK TILL YOU'VE FOUND THE CAT--NO MATTER HOW LONG IT TAKES! --SLAM--



IF I HAVE TO PAY THAT REWARD MONEY TO MY WORST ENEMY, I'LL NEVER LIVE IT DOWN! IT'S BAD ENOUGH SHELLING OUT A COOL GRAND TO ANYONE-- BUT TO SPIDER-MAN-- OHHHH!

AND SO, THE VARIOUS CHARACTERS IN OUR DRAMATIC LITTLE WEB OF LIFE EACH GO THRU THEIR PACES UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF AN INSCRUTABLE FATE...

IF I HANG AROUND PLACES LIKE THIS LONG ENOUGH, I'LL GET A LEAD ON THE CAT SOONER OR LATER...!



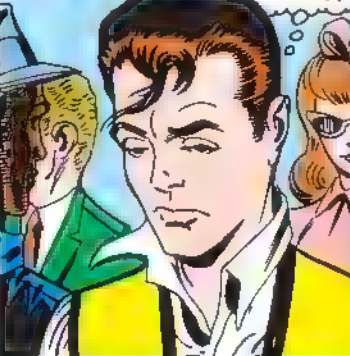
WHILE, FOR A SADDENED PETER PARKER, THE SEARCH FOR THE CAT HAS BECOME ALMOST FORGOTTEN...

THERE'S NO WAY OUT! SHE'D NEVER HAVE ME AS I AM--AND I JUST CAN'T GIVE UP BEING SPIDER-MAN!



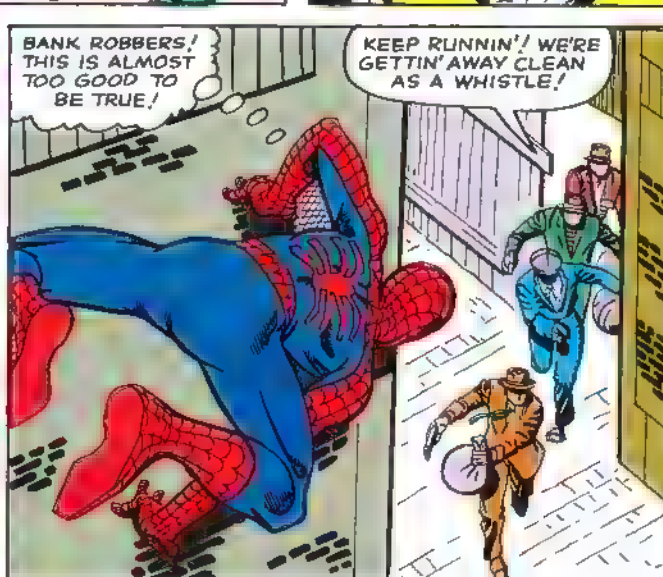
SO, SHE'LL END UP MARRYING LEEDS--AND LIVING THE QUIET, UNEVENTFUL LIFE SHE DREAMS OF! THERE'S ONLY ONE THING I'VE GOT TO FIGURE OUT--

...HOW DO I FORGET ABOUT--THE GIRL I LOVE??



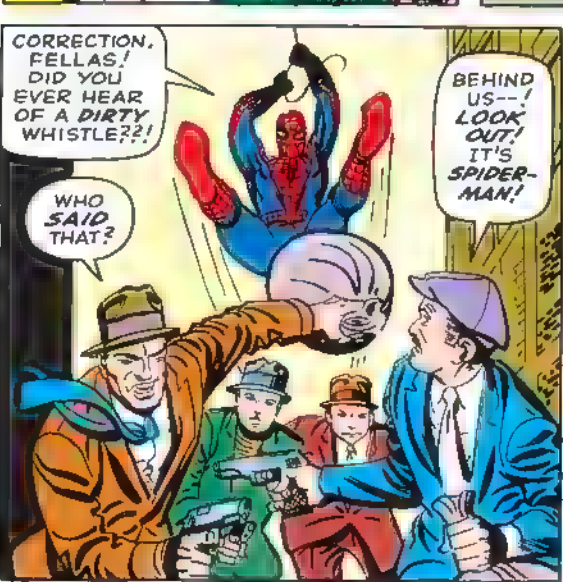
A SHOT! THAT MEANS TROUBLE!

IT'S JUST WHAT I NEED! ACTION--WORK FOR SPIDER-MAN!



BANK ROBBERS! THIS IS ALMOST TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE!

KEEP RUNNIN'! WE'RE GETTIN' AWAY CLEAN AS A WHISTLE!



CORRECTION, FELLAS! DID YOU EVER HEAR OF A DIRTY WHISTLE??!

WHO SAID THAT?

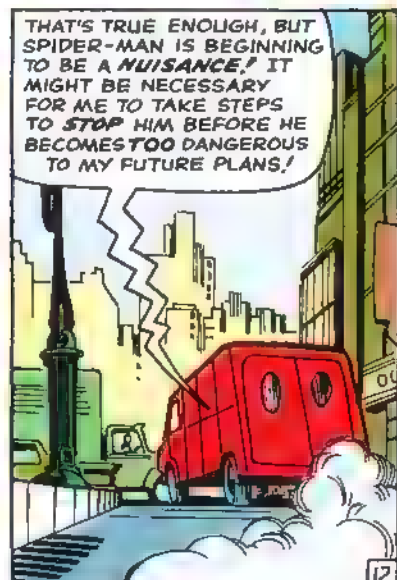
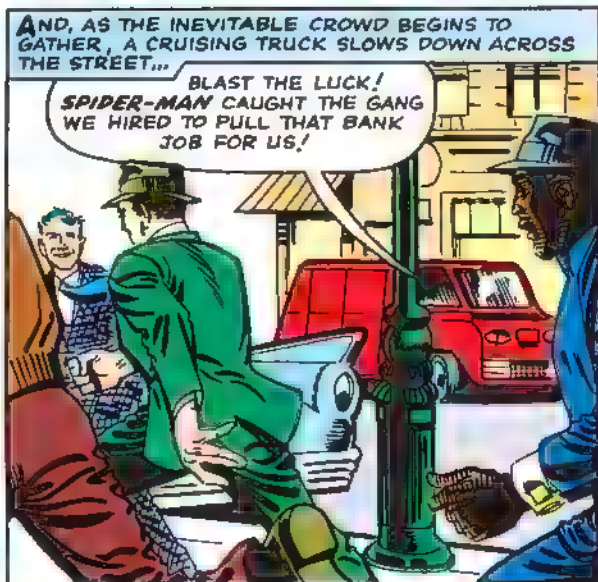
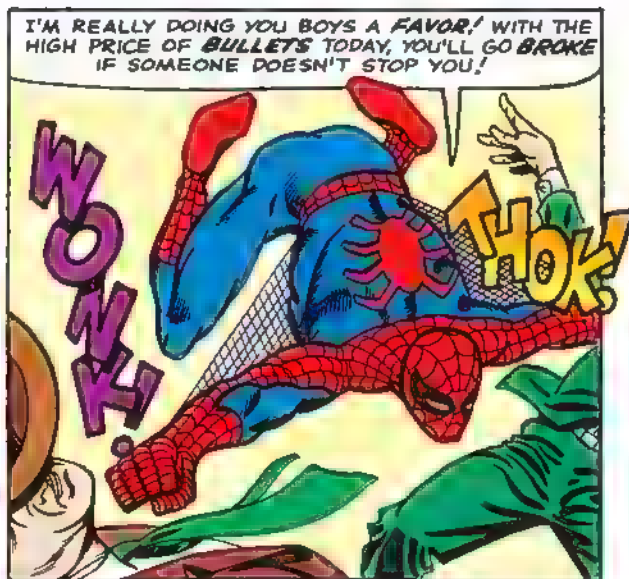
BEHIND US--! LOOK OUT! IT'S SPIDER-MAN!



BEHIND US?? WHERE? I DON'T SEE ANYTHIN'!!

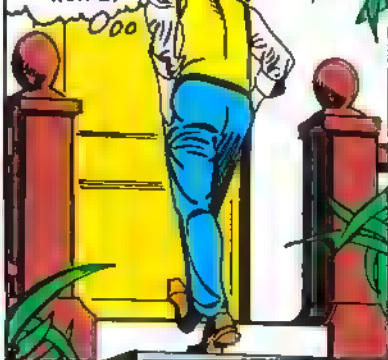
NEITHER DO I!

WHEEEEOOOO! OL' SPIDEY RIDES AGAIN!



MINUTES LATER, A CRESTFALLEN YOUNG MAN WEARILY WENDS HIS WAY TO A QUIET LITTLE HOUSE IN FOREST HILLS...

A TYPICAL PARKER DAY! I LOST MY GIRL -- COULDN'T FIND THE CAT -- AND DIDN'T EVEN HAVE A TOKEN FOR THE SUBWAY RIDE HOME!



WHILE, IN HER BEDROOM UPSTAIRS... FOOTSTEPS! IT MUST BE PETER, RETURNING!

I MUSTN'T LET HIM REALIZE THAT I FELT SO DIZZY I HAD TO LIE DOWN....!



HI, AUNT MAY! GOT ANY OF THAT GROOVY APPLE PIE LEFT??

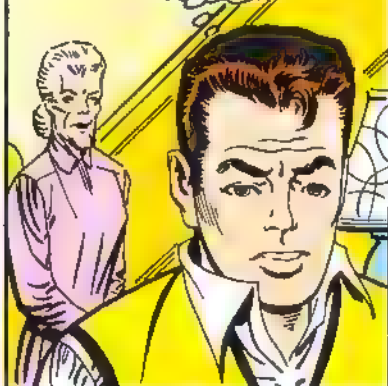
YES, DEAR-- IT'S IN THE FRIDGE!

GOOD! THAT'S FOR ME!



BY THE WAY, PETER-- BETTY BRANT CALLED QUITE A FEW TIMES! SHE ASKED ME TO BE SURE TO HAVE YOU CALL HER WHEN YOU CAME IN!

OH NO!



WHAT'S THE USE OF PROLONGING THE AGONY! THERE'S NOTHING MORE THAT EITHER OF US CAN SAY! IT'S ALL OVER-- I MIGHT AS WELL LET IT REMAIN THAT WAY!



THEN, AFTER A PIECE OF APPLE PIE WHICH THE SADDENED YOUTH HAS EATEN OUT OF SHEER HABIT, HARDLY TASTING A MOUTHFUL...

AS YET, JONAH JAMESON'S THOUSAND DOLLAR REWARD FOR THE CAT IS STILL UNCLAIMED! HE HAS NOT BEEN HEARD FROM SINCE--



BUT, ANOTHER IS WATCHING THAT SAME NEWSCAST-- A COLD-EYED MAN CHORTLES IN GRIM SELF-SATISFACTION...

SO FAR, SO GOOD! NOBODY SUSPECTS THAT AN ORDINARY SECOND-STORY MAN LIKE ME IS ALSO THE UNCATCHABLE CAT BURGLAR!

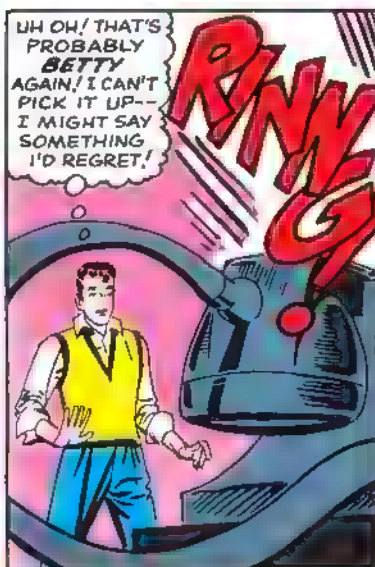
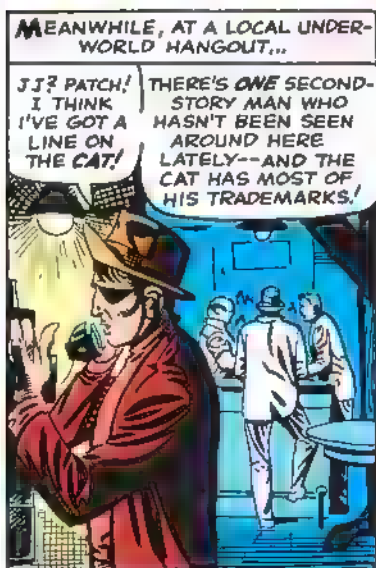
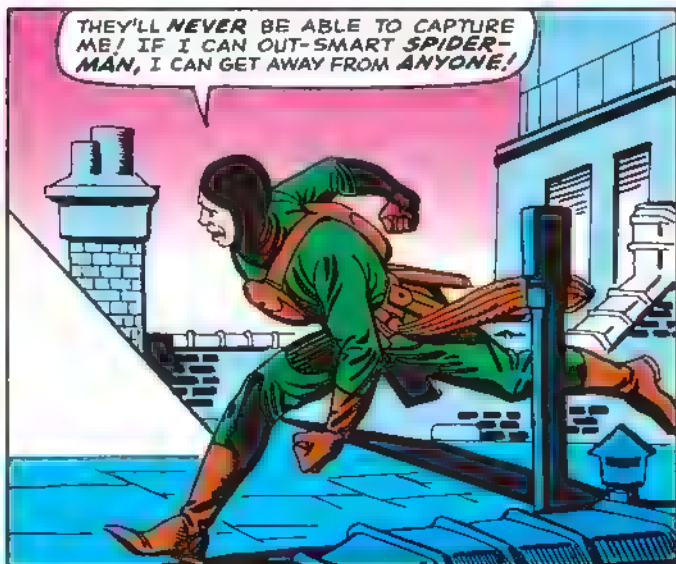


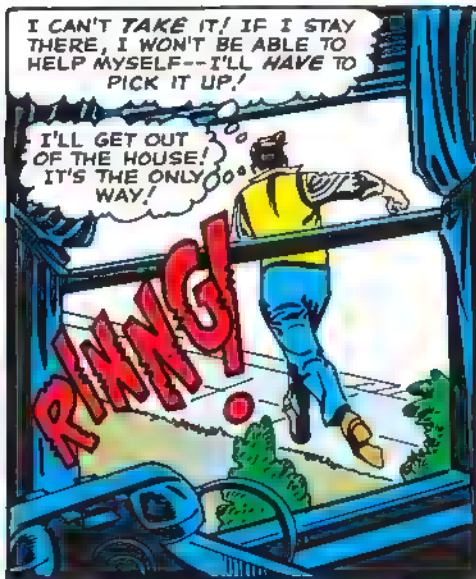
THE POLICE CAN'T WATCH EVERY BUILDING IN TOWN! I OUGHTTA TRY ONE MORE HAUL BEFORE I DECIDE TO LAY LOW FOR A WHILE --JUST TO KEEP MY HAND IN!



YEP! THAT'S WHAT I'LL DO! I'LL GRAB ME A BUNDLE, AND THEN SETTLE DOWN AND DREAM UP A PLAN TO GET RID OF SPIDER-MAN!







I CAN'T TAKE IT! IF I STAY THERE, I WON'T BE ABLE TO HELP MYSELF--I'LL HAVE TO PICK IT UP!

I'LL GET OUT OF THE HOUSE! IT'S THE ONLY WAY!

RING!



SECONDS LATER, THE MOST DRAMATIC FIGURE IN ALL ADVENTUREDOM TAKES TO THE ROOFTOPS AGAIN...

I'LL KEEP PATROLLING THE CITY--SEARCHING FOR THE CAT! I'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING--ANYTHING--TO KEEP MY MIND OFF BETTY!



AND, AS LUCK WOULD HAVE IT...

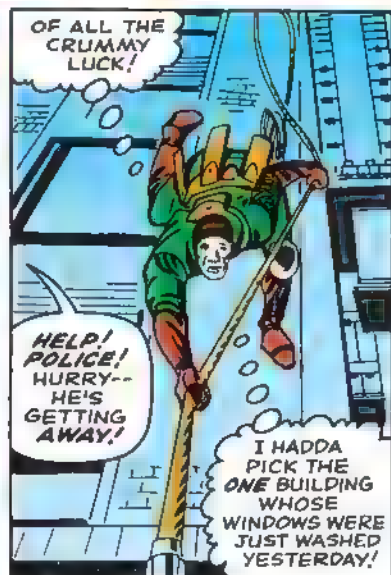
THIS HANDY LITTLE COLLAPSIBLE JIMMY OUGHT TO GET THIS WINDOW OPEN FOR ME!



HEY! WHAT'S GOING ON THERE? OUR WINDOWS WERE JUST WASHED YESTERDAY!

WAIT A MINUTE! YOU'RE NO WINDOW WASHER--!

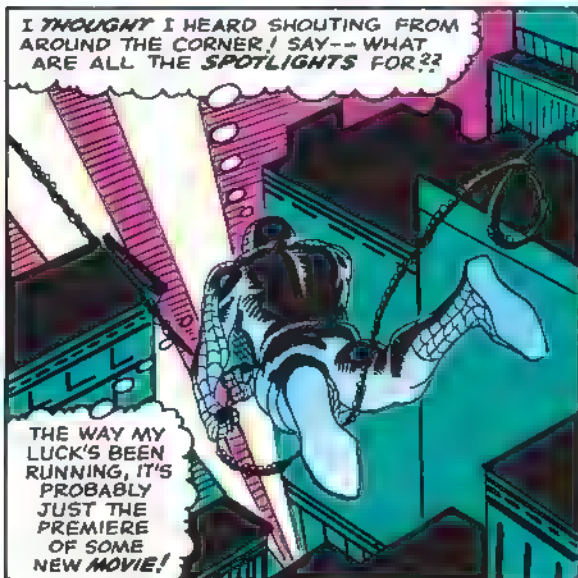
YOU'RE-- THE CAT!!



OF ALL THE CRUMMY LUCK!

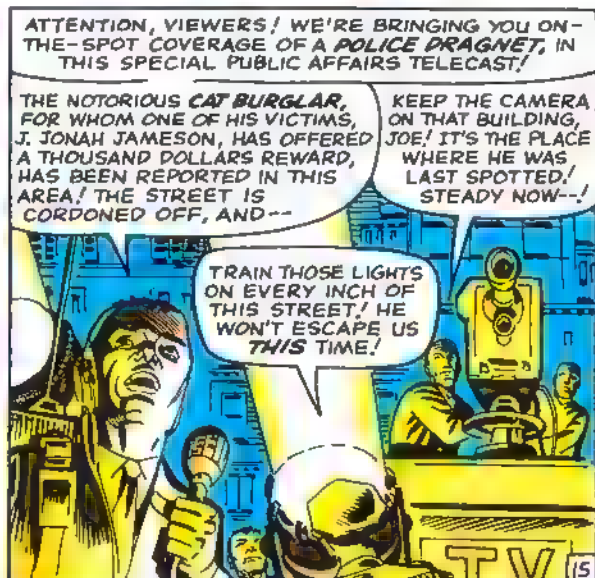
HELP! POLICE! HURRY-- HE'S GETTING AWAY!

I HADDA PICK THE ONE BUILDING WHOSE WINDOWS WERE JUST WASHED YESTERDAY!



I THOUGHT I HEARD SHOUTING FROM AROUND THE CORNER! SAY-- WHAT ARE ALL THE SPOTLIGHTS FOR??

THE WAY MY LUCK'S BEEN RUNNING, IT'S PROBABLY JUST THE PREMIERE OF SOME NEW MOVIE!



ATTENTION, VIEWERS! WE'RE BRINGING YOU ON-THE-SPOT COVERAGE OF A POLICE DRAGNET, IN THIS SPECIAL PUBLIC AFFAIRS TELECAST!

THE NOTORIOUS CAT BURGLAR, FOR WHOM ONE OF HIS VICTIMS, J. JONAH JAMESON, HAS OFFERED A THOUSAND DOLLARS REWARD, HAS BEEN REPORTED IN THIS AREA! THE STREET IS CORDONED OFF, AND--

KEEP THE CAMERA ON THAT BUILDING, JOE! IT'S THE PLACE WHERE HE WAS LAST SPOTTED! STEADY NOW--!

TRAIN THOSE LIGHTS ON EVERY INCH OF THIS STREET! HE WON'T ESCAPE US THIS TIME!

AND, ALONE IN HIS OFFICE, J. JONAH SETTLES BACK WITH A HAPPY HEART, FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HOURS...

AHHH-- I'VE GOT IT MADE NOW! THERE'S THE CAT, TRYING TO DODGE THE SPOTLIGHTS!

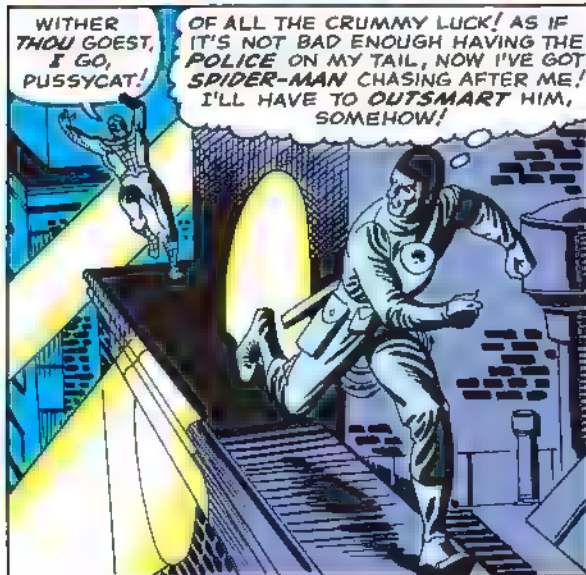
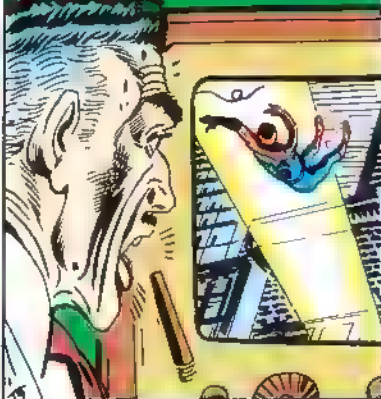
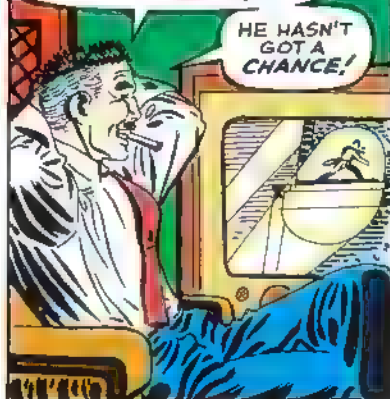
HE HASN'T GOT A CHANCE!

WAIT A MINUTE!!! THE LIGHTS HAVE PICKED UP ANOTHER FIGURE!

IT LOOKS LIKE-- IT--IT CAN'T BE-- -ULP-- IT IS! IT'S SPIDER-MAN!

GET AWAY FROM THERE!! QUIT BUTTING IN! IT'S NOT YOUR FIGHT! GO AWAY!!

WHY DID THIS HAPPEN TO ME? EVERYTHING WAS GOING SO WELL!! WHY AM I ALWAYS PLAGUED BY THAT WEB-HEAD?? WHY? WHY? WHY??



WITHER THOU GOEST, I GO, PUSSYCAT!

OF ALL THE CRUMMY LUCK! AS IF IT'S NOT BAD ENOUGH HAVING THE POLICE ON MY TAIL, NOW I'VE GOT SPIDER-MAN CHASING AFTER ME! I'LL HAVE TO OUTSMART HIM, SOMEHOW!



HAH! YOU DIDN'T EXPECT ME TO TURN SO SUDDENLY AND SHINE A BLINDING BEAM IN YOUR EYES!!

TO TELL THE TRUTH, LOUD-MOUTH--I DIDN'T!

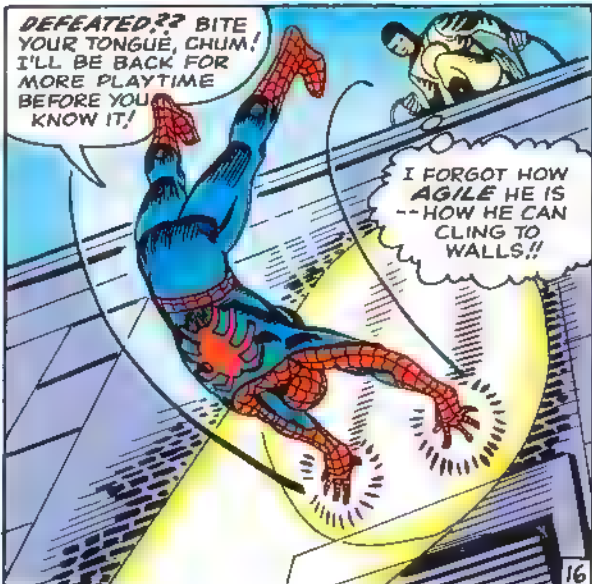
I WAS CARELESS! THE CAT IS NOBODY'S FOOL!



HE'S SWINGING A ROPE AT ME-- WITH A GRAPPLING HOOK AT ONE END!

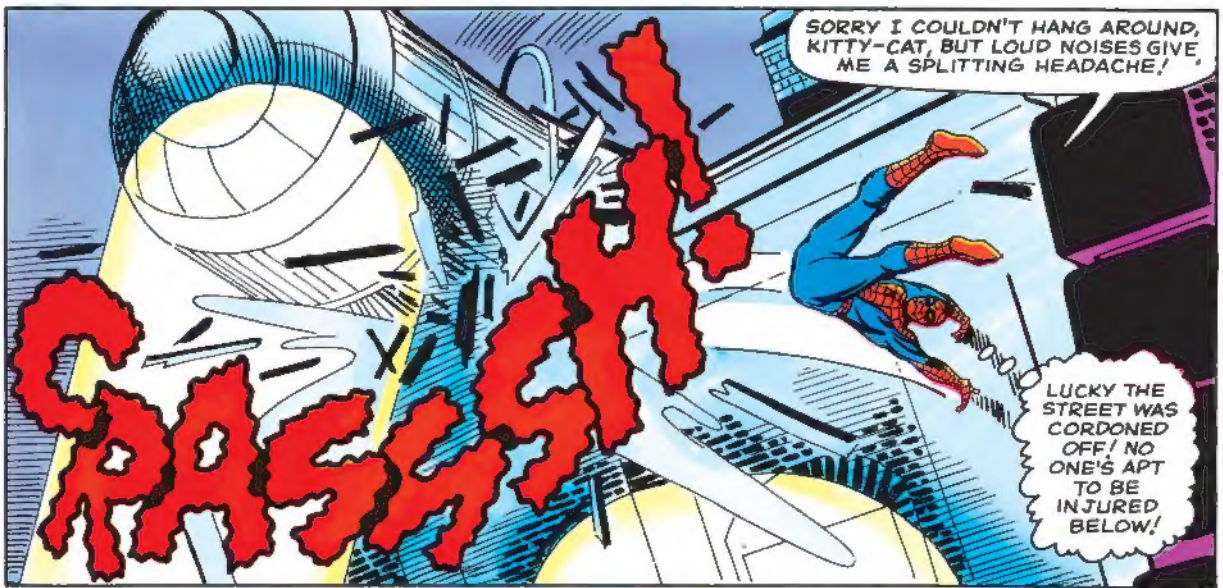
I'VE GOT TO DODGE IT, EVEN THOUGH THE SUDDEN MOVE WILL SEND ME HURLING OVER THE LEDGE!

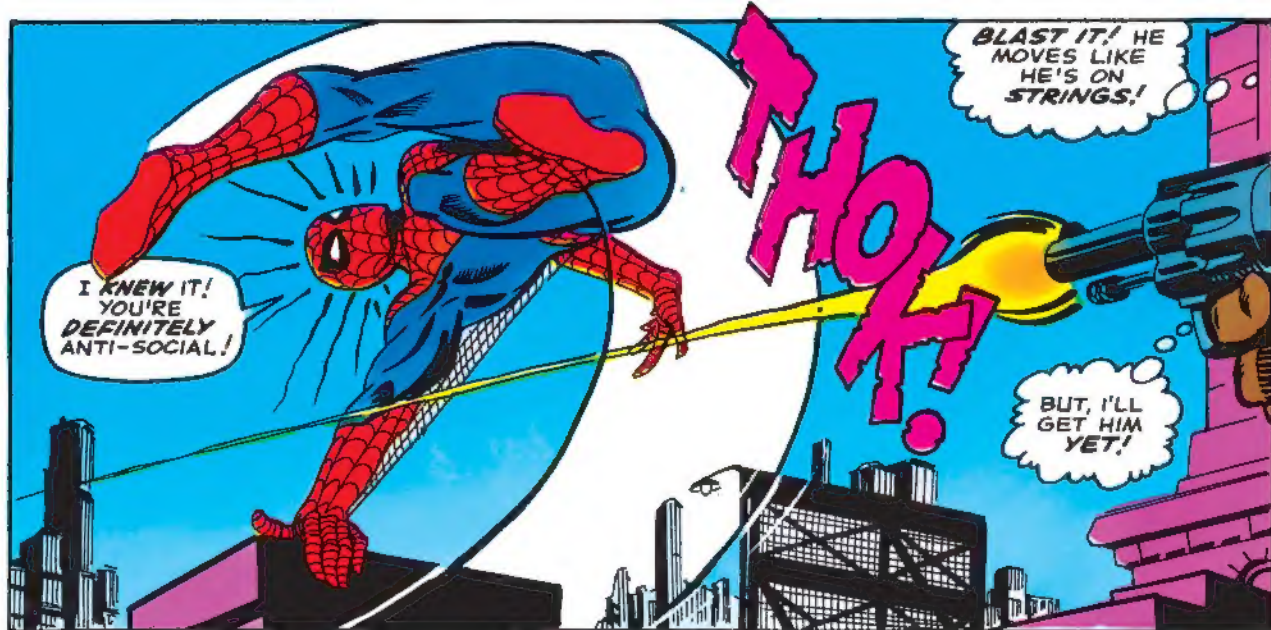
HAH! THE GREAT SPIDER-MAN, DEFEATED BY A SIMPLE EVERY-DAY DEVICE WHICH I USE IN PLYING MY "TRADE"!!



DEFEATED?? BITE YOUR TONGUE, CHUM! I'LL BE BACK FOR MORE PLAYTIME BEFORE YOU KNOW IT!

I FORGOT HOW AGILE HE IS --HOW HE CAN CLING TO WALLS!!





I KNEW IT!
YOU'RE
DEFINITELY
ANTI-SOCIAL!

BLAST IT! HE
MOVES LIKE
HE'S ON
STRINGS!

BUT, I'LL
GET HIM
YET!



THE ONLY REASON I'M NOT LOSING MY
TEMPER IS-- IT'S HARD TO GET ANGRY
AT SOMEONE WHO'S WORTH A
THOUSAND DOLLARS TO ME!

I'VE GOT TO
MAKE HIM USE
UP HIS AMMO,
AND THEN--
KA-POW!



CAT! THROW DOWN YOUR GUN AND SURRENDER!
YOU HAVEN'T A CHANCE!

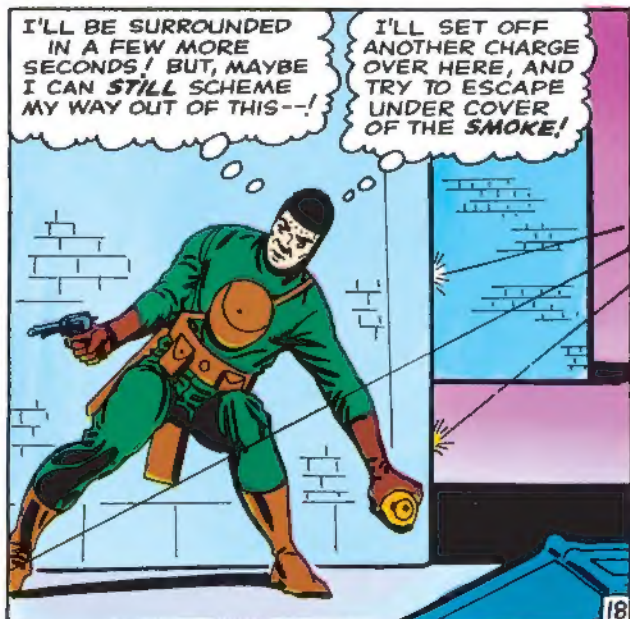
COPS!! WHILE I WAS
CONCENTRATING ON
SPIDER-MAN, THEY
MANAGED TO REACH
THE ROOFS AHEAD
OF ME!

NOW I'M
REALLY
IN FOR
IT!



THAT'S THAT! TOO MUCH LEAD FLYING
AROUND UP THERE FOR COMFORT!
I'LL JUST GET OUT OF THE LINE OF
FIRE FOR A WHILE!

I DON'T WANNA
BE ONE OF
THOSE INNOCENT
BYSTANDERS I
SOMETIMES
READ ABOUT!



I'LL BE SURROUNDED
IN A FEW MORE
SECONDS! BUT, MAYBE
I CAN STILL SCHEME
MY WAY OUT OF THIS--!

I'LL SET OFF
ANOTHER CHARGE
OVER HERE, AND
TRY TO ESCAPE
UNDER COVER
OF THE SMOKE!





AND SO, WE TAKE OUR LEAVE OF PETER PARKER FOR NOW, AS HE AND THE GIRL HE LOVES GO THEIR SEPARATE WAYS-- BOTH TRAGICALLY KEPT APART BY THE MYSTERIOUS, EVER-PRESENT FIGURE WHOM THE WORLD KNOWS ONLY AS-- **SPIDER-MAN!**

